

- 1. The Ministerial Advisory Committee on Co-operation was established in 1984 by the then Minister for Housing, the Hon. I. Cathie, M.P., in consultation with the then Minister for Employment and Training, the Hon. J.Simmonds, M.P.
- 2. M.A.C.C. was established to review the Co-operation Act and to identify appropriate mechanisms for developing the co-operative sector. The detailed terms of reference are included in the M.A.C.C. Information Paper: The Development of the Co-operative Movement in Victoria, p 6.
- 3. Membership as of 2 March 1985:

Andrew McCutcheon (Convenor)
Bill Rawlinson, C.F.V.
David Dinning, V.C.C.A.
Race Mathews, Minister for Arts
David Griffiths
Roy Gilbert, Director, Housing.
Robert Carter, Ministerial Advisor, Minister
for Housing
Joe Burke, Ministerial Advisor, Minister for
Employment and Training
Barry Pullen, M.L.C. Melbourne
Bill Kilpatrick, Registrar, Ministry for Housing.

- 4. The original secretary of M.A.C.C. was Maureen Hopper. With her secondment to the Department of Employment and Industrial, Paul Goldstone is now the committee's secretary.
- 5. There has been limited discussion on M.A.C.C. regarding its exclusive male membership. Gerri Curlin, from Race Mathews' office, has been attending meetings. Her membership could be formalised. An expanded M.A.C.C. membership would also be an opportunity to increase representation by women.
- 6. In brief, M.A.C.C. has achieved the following since its establishment in February 1984:
 - 6.1 Organised a conference on 23 June 1984.
 - 6.2 Issued an Information Paper, The Development of the Co-operative Movement in Victoria.
 - 6.3 Established three Working Parties Consumer, Worker and Producer, Marketing
 and Trading Co-operatives.
 - 6.4 Each of these Working Parties (6.3) have



prepared reports.

- 6.5 Commissioned a co-operative education and training report, Democracy Through Education.
- 7. M.A.C.C.'s Interim Report is currently in preparation. It is hoped that the report will be available by July 1985.
- 8. Issues that have emerged over M.A.C.C.'s 15 months could be summarised as follows:
 - 8.1 Issues of Convergence concerning the importance of co-operative principles, the significance of co-operative education and training and the inappropriateness of the Co-operation Act.
 - 8.2 Issues of Divergence concerning industrial democracy, politicisation, self-help, equity, surplus distribution and the State.
- 9. M.A.C.C. has discussed the possibility of broadening its co-operative membership at present restricted to the C.F.V. and V.C.C.A. With the resignation of Bill Rawlinson as Executive Officer of the C.F.V, it has been proposed that the new Executive Officer Tony Miller join M.A.C.C. This is being recommended by M.A.C.C. to the Minister for Housing, the Hon. F.Wilkes, M.P. A further broadening of membership, however, could be based on the three M.A.C.C. Working Parties described in 6.3.